

PERFORMANCE REPORT

STATE: MONTANA
GRANT TITLE: BEAR PROOF DUMPSTERS ON THE BLACKFEET RESERVATION
GRANT AGREEMENT: T – 1 - 1

PERIOD COVERED: October 15, 2002, through June 30, 2004

LOCATION: Blackfeet Indian Reservation, in Glacier and Pondera Counties, Montana

OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this project is to provide a garbage collection method that will not allow grizzly bears to access garbage, thereby preventing them from becoming food-conditioned and frequenting communities on the Blackfeet Reservation.

RESULTS:

Eight bear-proof dumpsters were purchased and installed as proposed in the Grant. Dumpsters are 40 cubic yards each in capacity, and were installed at the following locations:

- St. Mary – three (two have steps, and another that is primarily for commercial users does not)
- East Glacier – three (two have steps)
- Duck Lake (east of Babb) – one

An additional dumpster was purchased because as a dumpster is filled then hauled to the landfill located east of Browning, the dumpster needs to be changed out with an empty unit.

As anticipated in the Grant, the dumpsters will reduce the opportunity for grizzly and black bears to access garbage in the communities. The project will benefit grizzly bears, black bears, and people. Bears will not be able to access garbage in the communities even if they are attracted to the area by the odor. They will not receive a food reward and so will probably not return. They will not become conditioned to eating the garbage and habituate to the presence of people. Instead, they will continue to occupy their natural habitat and feed on natural foods. Bears will not be drawn into conflict situations and will not have to be relocated or killed as a result of an unnatural food source. People will benefit because there will be fewer food-conditioned, habituated bears in and around the communities. The danger of an aggressive encounter with a dangerous bear will be reduced.

In addition to work performed under this grant, several 4 cubic yard dumpsters were purchased and installed at Wagner's (south of Duck Lake). The Tribe intends to purchase additional bear-proof dumpsters to fulfill additional needs, as additional funds become available, perhaps through other SWG or Tribal Wildlife Grants.

VARIANCES: None.

COST:

All funds were expended.

SWG Implementation Federal Share (50%)	Non-Federal Match (50%)	TOTAL Direct Costs (100%)
\$26,700	\$26,700	\$53,400

Indirect costs are not assessed on equipment, such as in this grant.

Non-federal match was provided by as follows. Documentation is included in the project file:

\$ 6,477	Cash contribution from Defenders of Wildlife for purchase of dumpster
	Cash contributions from the Blackfeet Tribe:
	\$18,639 for dumpsters *
	\$ 1,744 to install dumpsters
	\$20,383
\$26,860	Match provided
\$26,700	Match required
\$ 160	Overmatch was provided

* dumpster match calculation:

\$51,816 cost of dumpsters paid by Tribe**
less \$6,477 provided by DofW = \$45,339
less \$26,700 SWG reimbursement from FWP = \$18,639

** Per Indian Self-Determination Act (P.L. 93-638), funds provided through an Indian Tribe are not considered federal in origin. Furthermore, receipts from the Blackfeet Utilities Commission are not federal in origin.

PROJECT PERSONNEL:

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Adam Brooks	Montana FWP A&F Division	
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Note: On October 7, 2003, Bobbi Keeler and Adam Brooks of FWP, along with Eddie Bennett from the USFWS in Denver, had the opportunity to view the dumpsters during a site visit hosted by Dan Carney.

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